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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/068,077	02/06/2002	Charles J. Northrup	N17-016	7428
3775	7590	03/28/2006	EXAMINER	
ELMAN TECHNOLOGY LAW, P.C.			COULTER, KENNETH R	
P. O. BOX 209			ART UNIT	
SWARTHMORE, PA 19081-0209			PAPER NUMBER	
			2141	

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/068,077

Applicant(s)

NORTHRUP ET AL.

Examiner

Kenneth R. Coulter

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18, 20 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18, 20 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 December 2005 and 06 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 – 18, 20, and 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Polnerow et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,813,006) (On-Line Directory Service with Registration System).

2.1 Regarding claim 1, Polnerow discloses in a network comprised of a multiplicity of computers, each computer having a communication device, each computer having an operating system with interfaces for communication connectivity and synchronization, a method for using a service, the method comprising:

a. a first component of software executing on a first computer inside a firewall connecting to, and sending a request to register as a specified service with a central directory service process executing on a second computer outside the firewall (Abstract; Figs. 2, 9; col. 3, lines 5 – 13, lines 50 – 65; col. 8, lines 50 – 67).

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b. in response thereto, the central directory service process authenticating the request and creating a registration entry representative of the specified service (Abstract; Fig. 2; col. 1, lines 31 – 45 “authenticated users”);

c. a second component of software executing on a third computer outside the firewall connecting to, and sending a request to the central directory service to access and interact with the specified service (Fig. 2; col. 3, lines 5 – 13; col. 8, lines 50 – 6); and

d. in response thereto, the central directory service process, accepting the connection, authenticating the request, locating the registration entry for the specified service, and facilitating communications between the connected specified service and the connected second component of software (Abstract; Figs. 2, 3, 9; col. 3, lines 5 – 13).

2.2 Per claim 2, Polnerow teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is a software engine service (Figs. 1, 3).

2.3 Regarding claim 3, Polnerow discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is an authentication service (Abstract “listings” “services”).

2.4 Per claim 4, Polnerow teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is a generic front end loading service (Figs. 2; col. 3, line 66 – col. 4, line 14).

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2.5 Regarding claim 5, Polnerow discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is a payment connection service (Fig. 3).

2.6 Per claims 6 – 17, the particular services claimed are encompassed by the “listings” and “services” (Abstract) in Polnerow.

2.7 Regarding claim 18, Polnerow inherently discloses a computer readable media containing computer instructions implementing the method of claim 1.

2.8 Per claims 20 and 21, the rejection of claims 1 – 18 under 35 USC 102(b) (paragraphs 2.1 – 2.7 above) applies fully.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

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were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 1 – 18, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meltzer et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,125,391) in view of Polnerow et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,813,006).

5.1 Regarding claim 1, Meltzer discloses in a network comprised of a multiplicity of computers, each computer having a communication device, each computer having an operating system with interfaces for communication connectivity and synchronization, a method for using a service, the method comprising:

- a. a first component of software executing on a first computer and registering as a specified service with a directory service process executing on a second computer (Abstract; Figs. 1, 11; col. 2, lines 32 – 54; col. 9, lines 30 – 44 “goods or **services** to be traded ...”; “BID registry”);

- b. the directory service process creating a registration for the first component of software (Abstract; Figs. 1, 11; col. 2, lines 32 – 54; col. 9, lines 30 – 44);

- c. a second component of software executing on a third computer and communicating a request to the directory service process, the request representative of

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a request to access and interact with the specified service provided by the first component of software (Abstract; Figs. 1, 11; col. 2, lines 32 – 54; col. 9, lines 30 – 44);

d. the directory service process, responsive to receiving the request, locating the registration entry for the first component of software, and facilitating communication with the first component of software on behalf of the second component of software (Abstract; Figs. 1, 11; col. 2, lines 32 – 54; col. 9, lines 30 – 44).

However, Meltzer does not explicitly disclose a firewall device or authentication procedures.

Polnerow teaches a firewall device and authentication procedures that protect critical data (Abstract; Figs. 2, 9; col. 3, lines 5 – 13, lines 50 – 65; col. 8, lines 50 – 67; col. 1, lines 31 – 45 “authenticated users”).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement the firewall and authentication procedures of Polnerow in the invention of Meltzer because Meltzer deals with credit card information (col. 83, lines 19 – 20) and other critical data. Credit card information must be closely protected in the network of Meltzer.

5.2 Per claim 2, Meltzer teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is a software engine service (col. 9, lines 30 – 44 “**goods or services** to be traded ...”).

5.3 Regarding claim 3, Meltzer discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is an authentication service (col. 9, lines 30 – 44 “**goods or services** to be

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traded ...").

5.4 Per claim 4, Meltzer teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is a generic front end loading service (col. 9, lines 30 – 44 “**goods or services** to be traded ...”).

5.5 Regarding claim 5, Meltzer discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the specified service is a payment connection service (col. 9, lines 30 – 44 “**goods or services** to be traded ...”).

5.6 Per claims 6 – 17, the particular services claimed are encompassed by the “goods or services” (col. 9, lines 30 – 44) in Meltzer.

5.7 Regarding claim 18, Meltzer discloses a computer readable media containing computer instructions implementing the method of claim 1 (col. 3, line 46 – col. 4, line 3).

5.8 Per claims 20 and 21, the rejection of claims 1 – 18 under 35 USC 102(b) (paragraphs 5.1 – 5.7 above) applies fully.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 – 18, 20, and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kokado et al. U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 20030115327 Method and
Apparatus for Setting Up a Firewall
A service registration and directory management system that implements a firewall.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth R. Coulter whose telephone number is 571 272-3879. The examiner can normally be reached on 5 4 9.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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